

3rd in ^{essentials in character} cheerfulness -
Lam. ~~100~~ ³⁹ Why for doth a living man ^{Be of good cheer} complain? ^{73, 126 &}

Though the day ^{may} be dark and dreary,
what of that? The sun will shine brightly
again. Tho' yr. work be difficult, what
of that? He has promised, ^{not only this to Asher} "As they days
so shall thy strength be," but also this
to you "I am with you all the days".

Tho' yr. life be lonely now, soon you shall
take up the harp and song among the
redeemed of heaven. The greater my
sorrow and grief the more shall I desire
freedom fr. sin. And in this world
where God has given us so much
to enjoy ^{and to cheer us.} how can anyone com-
plain! ^{be}

God has ever been and is now ex-

ceedingly good to us. He has given us the best things for our own good. We may not think so at the time. A child often rebels when its parents wisely deny it the privilege of choosing for itself in all things. And may not our heavenly Father often take from us something that would injure us and probably ruin us and unfit us for heaven? In His wise providence He has allowed some of us to lose our possessions, our friend or our loved ones. ~~He wanted us to~~ ^{we are} ~~drawn~~ ^{drawn} to Him by reverses, if we will not come by blessings. Some way or other He must win us to Him.

He has provided endless beauties for the eye to behold, and harmonies

in which the soul may delight,
truths in which the heart may
rejoice, boundless service in
which strength may be expended,
and great hopes with which the whole
man may be strengthened for greater en-
deavor. Oh! to be living amidst
such ^{and with such capacities!} surroundings is grand.

The amazing wonder ^{to those} to all who
stop to consider is why ^{is} does any
one ^{not cheerfully} complain of his life. What do
some say & all manner of things
about me. I can likely say mean-
er things about myself than others
wd ^{can} dare say if I chose so to
do. Each of us, ^{in some degree or way,} is probably far
below what the worst say we are.
So why should I complain and resent

it? If Jesus had ^{rejected us on} presented every occasion for offense in us, and where wd. we be. "There is only one god, that is God." And "if thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"

To the man who is right with God is cheerful and any place and every place is overflowing with blessings for him. Even the desert has blue skies and stars that shine all the more brightly as they glitter on the waste of sand. Rivers have blessings for the one who is in God's hand.

The man in a deep well looks up on the brightest day and may see the stars. Others walking above in the sunshine see none. So for the man deep down under surges and storms may be lost life many think of God that others in tranquil life fail to see.

There are more sunny than there are cloudy days. More days in which we get what we go after than days that we return empty.

more success than failures
in our attempts. When we compare
our joys with our sorrows
what rejoicing it brings
to our hearts! God hath not
dealt with us after our sins; nor re-
warded us according to our iniquities.
Wherefore then should a living man
complain? Be of good cheer.

The earth is man's to enjoy
but not to own. Just here is where
a great deal of ^{cheer is blasted} complaining arises.
Men see rich men and wish they
too were rich. If you have this
world as ~~abiding~~ a preparation
for heaven why strain every
nerve and hoard up every penny
to the detriment of your own good.

The man who stakes his happiness
on the dollar will never know
^{and some day that eagle will spread her wings and}
^{all the copying cannot make her remain where you}
what true happiness is. For the
Bible says, "God giveth to a man
that is good in his sight wisdom,
and knowledge, and joy; but to
the sinner he giveth travail, to
gather and to heap up, that he
may give to him that is good before
God." Andrew Carnegie wrote
to a newspaper in London: "wealth
lessens rather than increases
human happiness and million-
aires who laugh are rare."
And Rockefeller Jr. ^{has} made a sim-
ilar statement to his Sunday
School class recently.

There is no one who can keep you

back from enjoying the good things of life - no one but you own self. There is a home of a certain wealthy man near a large university. The driveway lead you thru woods and flowers, by beautiful lakes and waterfalls, and around zoological gardens, and past ~~ancient~~ ^{introduce you to} flower pots from the orient, and the many delightful surroundings of his mansion. It requires the labor of a hundred men daily to keep the ~~the~~ lawns mowed, the shrubbery cared for, and the horses groomed. The owner of it all spends his days in business in N.Y. City, while the ^{careless} students of the university enjoy the

fruits of his labors. Why? Because
nature belongs to God and is for the
enjoyment of all his creatures alike. ^{no}
~~one~~ ^{may} monopolize it.

Life is placed amidst too
many beauties to grow distant interesting
^{to merit} and complaining. (Spring ^{comes} is here with
its joys) The songs of the birds are
a call to cheerfulness; The fragrance
of the flowers is for your enjoyment;
The green grass is clustered with
clusters ^{of flowers} of Spring beauties, daisies
and buttercups; the sun rises
in the morning reflecting the
beauties ^{of} its rays thru the dew
drops on the blades of grass and
petals of flowers, then passes
on thru the sea of blue skies to
set amidst the quietness and
tenderness of ~~an~~ evening tide. ~~And~~

* And as tho' the flowers beneath our feet,
The stars above our heads were not
enough, He has added the land-
scape of a thousand ^{little} mountain peaks
covered with all shades of green
and even that is not enough
for at times the flamboyant
break forth in fiery red extending
his branches and the orange
in snowy white and the forest
trees in pillows of myriad colors
and fragrance - with cooing doves
and the sweet song of the industrious
bird the year around.

following the ^{day} sun is drawn out
the trail of stars to rest our eyes,
and the breezes of night to cool
our foreheads. * (How can a
man complain when God has done so
much for him. O! Give thanks unto God for
all His goodness!

God has provided abundantly
against our days growing mon-
^{Enlarge your view - Consider the great world.}
otonous. Spring, with its flowers,
ripens into Summer with
its fruits. Summer fades
away into the picturesque beauty
of the ~~fall~~, when nature as
if on grand parade, puts on
her finest frock and waves
her tresses of golden tangles
over the brown of earth. After
the leaves have ~~all~~ chased, one after

Another, to the ground, and all nature ^{of all kinds} falls asleep, the beauties of ^{the earth} snow and ice - branched trees stand like sentinels in their silent watch ^{follow the weather hourly} Who could have devised a world ^{with} so interesting surroundings and circumstances as these? ^{so cheerful}

No one but a loving heavenly Father. No one could have arranged it half so well as it is. Why then complain of the few things that go wrong when there are so many that always go right? ^{learn to be of good cheer - of Christ's Church}

2. When we consider the attainments of life ^{it makes us cheerful} (what reason has anyone for complaining)? Each has his own best gift. If ^{we} cannot act like an Irving, or play like a Paderewski, or sing like a Patti, or portray character like a Shakespeare, or

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speak like an Alexander Duff, or
reason like an Edwards, or write like
a ~~George~~ Robert Louis Stevenson, or invent
like an Edison, or amass wealth like
a Marshall Field, or command like
a Napoleon, or live in regal splendor
like a Caesar —; we can at least at-
tain the standard and reach the
mark for which we were created.
In this fact let us be contented
and let us rejoice and thank
God for the gifts He has given to us
in our low estate. We are God's
building. In any building there are
more common stones than any other
kind. Some stones are concealed
behind others. Only a few can be
corner stones. Only one can be a
capstone. And so long as we are

filling the place He assigned
us and doing our duty, why
should ~~we~~ ^{we not be cheerful?} complain.

3. The third reason why man shd.
~~think~~ ^{think} ~~not~~ ^{not} complain is found in the great provision
God has made for him. You may
not enter the great palaces of earth
nor may you feast at the table
spread for potentates, nor yet
may hear the great orators of
the day; but one thing is certain,
~~that~~ if you are right with God,
you shall ^{not only be cheerful but} some day not many
years hence enter the Palaces
of Glory, and sit down at the
marriage supper of the Lamb,
and hear His welcoming word
as He says "Welcome,
child. This is your eternal

abode." What tho life's hope be
blasted since heav'n's gates are
opened and waiting for us.

Our days are numbered here; but
there is no row of figures long
enough to ~~measure~~ ^{number the years of} the eternity
that is ours. Let us suffer wrongs
as our Master did, and let us endure
hardships and smile amidst
a sea of frowns, and go about
our daily task in a cheerful air.
For our real joy and reward ~~is~~
^{lies yonder, not here.} ~~now waiting for us in heaven.~~ ^{End}

In hope and surroundings God
has done His best to make us happy.
~~py, all our days, in His love.~~ He
has given us this beautiful world to
live in, and Jesus to guide us

Then it will lead us Home
at last.

Enjoyment and happiness consist
not in mere delights and gratifications
of our desires, but in attainment,
in reaching the goal, in making
the harbor safely. Blistered hands
and weary limbs are nothing when
we with joy step upon the wharf
after a long and perilous voyage.

Cling close to your Guide and
read carefully His word as re-
corded in the Bible, and someday
you shall look back on life and
say as Burns says of ^{the banks of} ~~bonnie doon~~ ^{bonnie doon}
you can say of your past life
"Ye banks and braes o' bonnie doon,
How can ye bloom sae fresh and fair?"

God bless — ^{our} Thanks unto the
Lord for our world, our lives, our
friends, our God & His added blessing
Preached in P. D. of P. R.
Jan 14 - 1923